



# Chattanooga Council

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Chattanooga, TN 37402

DEMETRUS COONROD  
Councilwoman, District 9

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April 4, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg  
US Department of Transportation  
Washington, DC

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of Council District 9 and the Chattanooga City Council, I am writing to communicate my support for the City of Chattanooga as they pursue a grant through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant funding. The City is pursuing this grant to replace the 70-year old Wilcox Boulevard Bridge over the DeButts Railyard, owned and operated by Norfolk Southern Railway, and over additional tracks operated by CSX Railway.

The existing structure can no longer support freight trucks or emergency vehicles, does not offer a safe passageway for pedestrians or bicyclists to cross this large rail facility, and continues to rapidly deteriorate. A replacement structure is vital to the community and to the transportation network at this location.

Thank you for considering this project by the City for a RAISE grant, and I look forward to one-day seeing a new structure with multimodal facilities at this location become a reality.

Sincerely,

Demetrus Coonrod  
Councilwoman, District 9  
Chattanooga City Council